

### **Report on 2009 NTSS Meeting of the Biology Unit**

The Biology Unit met at 10:00 am on Saturday June 13 at the National Topical Stamp Show held at the Dayton, Ohio, Convention Center. The meeting was called to order by the president, Fran Hammond. Other officers present were Alan Hanks, vice president and editor, Laurie Ryan, treasurer and Chris Dahle, secretary. Six members of the unit were present. After introductions, there was discussion about buying sets of stamps when only one stamp belongs in a collection. Is it best to up exchange the extras, or is it best to keep the whole set so you can sell an unbroken set? Or is it possible to sell them to a topical dealer?

It seems hard to find dealers nowadays who have new material. Many dealers seem to buy out existing dealers rather than purchase new issues to sell.

There was discussion of stamp images on various web sites. Birdtheme.org is a good site.

Most of the collectors present arrange their collections by family. Some arrange them by country. Lots of taxonomic changes in birds and insects makes it challenging to arrange albums.

Alan asked for questions about the journal. Some wondered about printing in color. Units with small numbers of readers can afford to print their journal in color, which is generally done inhouse.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 to let the Philatelic Lepidopterists take over.

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### **Secretary's Report, June 2009**

There are 98 paid and life members. We have 30 members delinquent from 2008 and 26 more who have not paid dues since 2007. We had 5 new members since June 2008.

The web site had 260 visits in May 2009 and 303 in April. During May the visits were from the following countries:

USA	216	China	98	UK	19	Russia	11
Japan	11	Netherlands	11	France	8	Czech Rep.	8
Spain	7	Korea	7.				

Current statistics from our web site are limited to the last 62 days since our host has changed its software for statistics since our last meeting.

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